[XXXVth YEAR.] THE [No. 1720.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1779.

the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

NUMBER XXI.

HAVING been, for some time, diverted from my course, to take a view of some particular matters, I now return to that which is the more general subject of these papers, the alliance of the States with France.

It has been shewn that the treaties which constitute this alliance have, for their principle, the most perfect equality and reciprocity of advantages. It remains to be observed, that the form of the treaties is also good, and the language unambiguous. This has not been the case with most treaties that the world has ever known.

Before the treaty of Westphalia in 1648, the spirit and principle of negotiation was little understood in Europe, and no one treaty well conceived and properly drawn up had existed. Indeed, though this was a good treaty, and has served for a model to others since, yet we do not find in the subsequent treaties, all that excellent form, lucidity of order, precision of ideas, and clearness of language, which is necessary to secure against the misconstructions of the parties on either side, and to lay the foundation of a lasting tranquility.

The abbe Mably observes, "that it is not so easy as one may suppose, to give a good form to a treaty, which embraces many objects. How many plenipotentiaries, says that judicious writer, have well deserved the reputation which they have acquired, and yet have failed in this work! One is at a loss to follow them; no order in their ideas, no thread which connects the particulars; all is thrown out at random; the reader who would mean to understand, must begin by endeavouring to set in order a chaos, and sometimes he will end, by seeing that he does not understand that which he had conceived he did understand. Such confusion in a treaty infallibly announces, that the ministers have negotiated at hazard, and without having any certain and precise ideas of the affairs with which they were entrusted. Some are willing to impress on their treaties that character of finesse and subtilty, which they have employed in the course of their negotiation. They avoid the proper term, even when they have no interest to avoid it; they affect obscurity, and speak nothing fully out. We must divine their meaning, and yet cannot flatter ourselves that we shall be able to divine it. They tell you of a minister of Italy, who boasted with much self-approbation, that he had never spoken, in critical conjunctures, but in such a manner that it might be interpreted in either way. Ambassadors cannot dress an article, without inserting in it some superfluous clause; and they prove, by this, that they do not understand the affairs of which they treat. Frequently little matters are inflated by them, their vanity leading them to consider these as important objects: they apprehend that their negotiations will acquire the more majesty, and they do but discover the littleness of their own minds."

So far the judicious abbe: And without doubt, there is great force of truth in these words; for to make an able negotiator, it is requisite that he understand the commercial and territorial interests of the respective states; what it may be necessary to acquire, to give stability and safety to his own cause; what it may be proper to cede, in order to remove suspicion and jealousy from the minds of the enemy; and what may be the interests and the sentiments of the neighbouring powers, with regard to the stipulations of the treaty. Nor is it enough to comprehend the present interests and views of the several states, but also to perceive the springing and possible interests that may exist in future, so as to adjust the articles of the treaty with regard to these, and to lay the foundation of a general and lasting concord. When these are understood, it is requisite to be able to condense the ideas, and to bring them clearly into one point of view; to give paucity, and at the same time arrangement to the articles. For, as an army drawn up in order, whether in square, wedge, or in column, or with wing and main battle, can be taken in by the most simple eye; and, as in the discourse of an orator, the arguments placed in their proper order, are more clearly perceived by the minds of the audience, so in any treaty, a noble outline and just order is requisite, that it may be comprehended by the most simple nation.

The language of the treaty is also worthy of attention. For, as in contracts between individuals, a term not known to the law, or a dubious expression, may be the foundation of expensive lawsuits between the parties, so in a compact between nations, the ambiguity of a single phrase may give rise to long contests. In the treaty of Aix la Chappelle between France and England, an article relative to the limits of their possessions in North-America had this expression, "That all things should be upon the same footing they were, or *ought to be*, before the war. These words, *ought to be*, which inadvertently had crept into the article, seemed fair and reasonable in themselves, but, when each party came to apply them, they had different ideas of what *ought to be*, and to determine this was the subject of a new war, which, as it turned out, not less than ten years, and the blood of thousands shed on both sides, was able to extinguish.

I have considered with attention those treaties which subsist between France and these States, and I find them drawn up in a manner very masterly. The ministers appear to have understood, to the most minute particulars, the interests of France and of these States; and we know that a perfect knowledge is the foundation of what is excellent in every performance of the mind. The poet tells us, that "good sense is the principle and foundation of good writing*;" and, "that if we are masters of our subject, we shall be able to find out apt expressions;†" and St. Luke tells us, that he undertakes to write his gospel, "because he had perfect knowledge of these matters."

The affairs of America and France were well understood by those concerned in drawing up these treaties. The plan is extensive and comprehends every possible interest of the two nations, not only for the present, but for the future time. The ideas are precise, with regard to these interests. The order is luminous; the language is unambiguous and clear. I do not find one term, on which the wit of man, serving the purposes of his dishonesty, can raise a dubious construction. This will appear to the world to constitute no mean part of the excellence of the stipulations; for while it reflects honour on those who were engaged to draw them up, it has laid the foundation of a harmony which may be perdurable. There can be no debate between the spirit and the letter of the treaties; and the minds of men being perfectly satisfied with regard to the intention of them, will be disposed to observe, with good faith, the alliance which they have established.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

* —— *Sapere æ, recte scribendi*
Principium & fons.——— Hor. Sat.

† —— *Si lecta potenter erit res,*
Verba non invita sequentur.——— Hor. Ar. Po.

CHARLES-TOWN, *South-Carolina, Oct.* 26.

LAST Thursday evening the honourable major-general Lincoln, commanding the troops in the Southern department, returned here from the Southward.

Last Sunday arrived here from Cape François, the brig Content, captain Williamson; sloop Good-Intent, captain Allen; and sloop Family-Trader, captain Stiles.

Several vessels arrived lately at the cape dismasted, in a gale of wind, which happened about the middle of last month, one of whom had taken up and brought in the crew of a vessel from New-York for Halifax.—Captain Nicholson, in a vessel from Philadelphia, arrived lately at the Mole in a shattered condition, having lost all his masts, and was obliged to throw his guns overboard, in the above gale of wind.

PHILADELPHIA, *Dec.* 6.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Hendrik Hoof, burgomaster of the city of Amsterdam, to his friend in Connecticut, dated July 12, 1779.

"Notwithstanding I have had little opportunity to convince you of my real esteem and affection for you, I have however often wished, that God may conduct and save you, and by his assistance may be the means to promote the happiness and prosperity of our dear country, with that of the Thirteen United American States. How rejoiced shall I be, if I can contribute any thing to it; I know no greater joy on earth, or more agreeable *nectar* for my soul, than when the Almighty enables me to promote the happiness of my fellow-creatures, under whatever climate they might be born.

"It is not impossible to imitate the deity, from whom we have received all, more than to sacrifice joyfully life and property, for the destruction and breaking of the slavish ties, and to preserve our posterity from slavery. North-America, as long as the world lasts, can glory, that in her are found such men, as are endued with wisdom, knowledge and bravery, to procure to a numerous nation, and by nature a blessed extensive country, the greatest treasure on earth, I mean liberty, so as to proclaim without fear of the inquisitions, *GOD only is our KING!* That king of kings, I hope, shall further conduct the American heroes by his spirit, and preserve them from all misfortunes. These are my prayers and wishes, assure those noble souls there, of my name, who justly may be called the fathers of their country. In a little while shall all the nations of the earth acknowledge the independence of North-America: whilst the English are disabled to have their commands obeyed; they shall be deprived of people and money, and compelled to make peace with the powers they are at war with, &c. &c."

We have the greatest reason to expect, that by the multitude of friends amongst all ranks of people in the different provinces of the United Netherlands, especially by the open protectors of liberty in the city of Amsterdam and other places, that they will over-balance any prejudicial resolutions of such provinces as have not feeling enough to maintain their own liberty, much less that of the North-American States.

A friend to the country observes, That it is a matter much commendable to all merchants of the United States of America, who are trading to Holland, to examine into the characters of their correspondents there, so that the sweet emoluments of trade and commerce should not fall into hands who do not deserve it; as there are as well tories in Holland, as in America.

For the sake of justice we can assure the public, That Mr. John De Neufville and son, a mercantile house in Amsterdam, has been from the beginning active and friendly to the American cause, from pure motives of its justice; and the Americans have always met with comfort there; that worthy gentleman has even ordered from time to time his friends in England to have the American prisoners assisted with very considerable sums of money.

On the 24th of August, the brig Amsterdam, an American vessel, commanded by captain Magee, laying at anchor in the Stee, was visited by a Holland admiralty vessel, the officers of which went on board of captain Magee, and the American flag was saluted by them with all honour.

The ship Henry, captain Burk, from Bolton for this port, was drove ashore on Brigantine Beach, in a gale of wind last week: the people, cargo, rigging and materials are saved, but the vessel is lost.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of undoubted character and veracity, to his friend in this city, dated at Alicant, Sept. 21, 1779.

"The combined fleets of France and Spain, are composed of 66 ships of the line, besides frigates, bomb ketches and fire-ships, well manned and provided with every necessary; they are in pursuit of admiral Hardy's fleet, composed of 41 ships of the line, besides frigates, who avoid an engagement with such a superior force. They have nevertheless taken four British ships of 64 and 74 guns.

"There are 500 transports ready for sea, on the coast of Brittany, who are to take on board 60,000 choice troops in order to land them in England.

"Gibraltar is besieged by 20,000 picked Spanish troops, who are advancing their trenches; that port is also blocked up by a squadron of the

ſame nation, to prevent any ſuccours going in, and the Britiſh are ſo engaged on all ſides that they cannot attempt it.

"The emperor of Morocco, has abſolutely refuſed the permiſſion required by England to extract cattle and wheat from his dominions, and on the contrary our fleet and army at Gibraltar, are daily ſupplied from them with cattle and bread in the greateſt abundance."

ANNAPOLIS, *December 24.*

The honourable George Plater, James Forbes, Thomas Johnſon, John Hall, Edward Lloyd, and John Hanſon, jun. Eſquires, are choſen delegates to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs for the year enſuing.

Cambridge, November 29, 1779.

SIR,

WE, the ſubſcribers, juſtices and other gentlemen, inhabitants of Dorcheſter county, fully impreſſed with a ſenſe of your merit, and conſcious that, from the commencement of the preſent war to this time, you have ſhewn yourſelf a real friend to your country; that you have ſacrificed your private intereſt to the public good; that you have, in the time of danger, with equal fortitude and zeal given up the ſatisfaction ariſing from the ſweet converſe of a wife and family, think that gratitude demands from every freeman in this ſtate, that approbation which your conduct has deſerved.

Friends to the cauſe of America, the cauſe of liberty, we wiſh to let you know our ſentiments, ſhew ourſelves grateful, and return you thanks.

When we ſee men of rank and fortune, either through indolence, or fear of danger, averſe to render their country that ſervice, which might have been expected from their abilities we can not but the more admire and eſteem you.

We are ſorry and provoked to hear, that you was called to account by an individual, for what was done in your executive capacity; confident that in that inſtance your line of conduct was agreeable to law, we are pleaſed to hear you treated the matter with contempt and diſdain.

Happy under your adminiſtration, we ſincerely wiſh that the ſame motives which have heretofore actuate you, may ſtill prevail and induce you to accept of ſuch truſts as may enable you to render your country real ſervice.

We are,

Sir, with reſpect,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

THOMAS JOHNSON, Eſq;
late governor of Maryland.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

NUMBER XIV.

THE independence of America was an object deſirable with France and with others of the powers of Europe. It was deſirable becauſe it was leſſening the power of Britain, which had become formidable, and becauſe it was opening the channel of a new commerce to their own cities and their own ſhores.

This commerce had been well explained by our commiſſioners at Paris who, in their memorials, tranſlate into ſeveral of the languages of Europe, had pointed out the advantages of a double market in America, both to receive and to ſupply commodities. But this commerce in poſſeſſion of the power of Britain, like a fierce dragon, was guarded as the golden apples in the garden of the Heſperides. It was defended as the fleece of Colchos, by a fire-vomiting bull. It was ſecure as the fields and the flocks of Sicily, in poſſeſſion of a mighty giant wading far into the waters, and drinking blood inſtead of wine. What bold Alcides was there to be found who would ſlay this dragon, and lay open this garden, that the apples might be plucked by all? What adventrous Jaſon who would ſail the rough ſea, and ſlay theſe bulls, and bring away this fleece? what wiſe Uyſſes, who by ſtratagem would deprive this giant of his ſtrength, and ſet at liberty theſe fields and theſe flocks. What power of Europe would boldly ſet the king of Britain at defiance, and would grapple with him.

The ſtates of America had ſet him at defiance and had grappled with him; but, ſecure in the poſſeſſion of their mountains, they could be late at leaſt in a defenſive war. But that power of Europe who would undertake to brave his anger, muſt meet him on the ocean; which is his own element, and where his great ſtrength lies. What power of Europe was equal to the undertaking? It was deſirable to all, but all had not the reſolution to attempt it.

The king of Pruſſia was one of thoſe powers to whom it was deſirable. For, as he had, for a long time, in vain demanded of the king of England the remaining ſubſidy of a former war, he could demand it more freely in conſequence of the reduction of the power of Britain; and if it was refuſed, he could ſeize Hanover, and add it to his own dominions. It was deſirable moreover, in as much as the ſtrength of his kingdom being greatly artificial, and conſiſting more in the reſources of invention, bravery, and great experience in the prince, than in the extent, population and wealth of his territory, he has had it through his whole reign in view to acquire a real ſtrength, by the encouragement of commerce to his trading towns, and particularly to Embden and Frankfort on the Oder, and to the towns of Sileſia. Though willing to extend his commerce, he has not had it in his power until this moment to extend it. Britain had ſo eſtabliſhed herſelf in different ports, and other powers were ſo far before in eſtabliſhments of commerce, that it was difficult, or rather impoſſible, for a young power to obtain any ſhare. The trading company of Embden has laboured under every diſadvantage, of the prior occupance of commerce by the neighbouring powers, and therefore muſt rejoice in the opening of a new trade, where they alſo may eſtabliſh hoa es, and allure commerce, before ſhe is engroſſed by more potent neighbours. There is for theſe reaſons, no doubt but Pruſſia is greatly intereſted in the preſent revolution, and will be diſpoſed anxiouſly to wiſh it ſucceſs.

This prince of whom we ſpeak is the admiration of his age, and has accompliſhed greater things than Alexander or Cæſar. It is not in my power to form his panegyric; yet, as I believe him to be favouring to our cauſe, I would willingly place him in the moſt reſpectable light to America. He has not had it in his power to give immediate and direct aſſiſtance on the ocean, for his naval ſtrength is yet ſmall; but he has had conſiderable influence in preventing ſeveral of the German powers, and particularly the duke of Wirtemberg, from hiring out mercenaries to be ſent over to America. He has alſo given the tone to a liberal way of thinking in all the German ſtates relative to America. To this he is inclined, both by his affection for our ally, by his opinion of the juſtice of our cauſe, and, at the ſame time, by his own intereſt.

It was laughable enough, at the commencement of the preſent war, to hear the courtiers of Britain adopt a language ſimilar to that of the Cavaliers under Charles II. That, forſooth, their cauſe was the cauſe of royalty, and it became every prince and potentate throughout the world to unite in ſuppreſſing this rebellion. A language of this nature might have had weight in a barbarous age, when names were underſtood and not things; but in the preſent clear and enlightened era of the world, when names are underſtood, and when things are ſeen in their true light, it becomes ridiculous to prefer this claim; and every ſovereign and potentate of Europe, inſtructed in the writings of the republics of the old times, knows well, that where ſome equality of property amongſt a people, and where ſimplicity of manners will admit a republic, the human ſpecies cannot be more happy than under this government. The king of Pruſſia, I will venture to affirm, has had no prejudice againſt America becauſe ſhe was about to inſtitute a confederate republic; nay, from the philoſophy and greatneſs of his mind, rather has admired our exertions, and applauded our deſigns. If any thing on earth could give him perfect pleaſure, it would be to embrace the perſon of our brave general, whoſe fame faſt following riſes, and, compared with that of this prince, is like the ſhepherd's fire on the eaſtern hills, when the broad light that has adorned the weſt has wrapt itſelf in the quiet ſhades of eve.

The ſtates of Holland were another of the powers to whom it was deſirable to reduce the power of Britain, and to ſhare our commerce. The province of Holland, and the city of Amſterdam in particular, have been favouring to our cauſe. Though ſome individuals, having money in the funds of England, might have been averſe from the revolution, becauſe in that caſe Britain might become bankrupt, and not be able to diſcharge her debts, yet the greater part have wiſhed well to our attempt. Nevertheleſs, the ſtates of Holland have not had it in their power to give countenance to America. For though individuals of St. Euſtatia and of other places have furniſhed ſupplies of arms and ammunition to our trading veſſels, yet the nation has thought it prudent to diſcountenance every thing of this kind; and very early in the conteſt the governor of St. Euſtatia was recalled, agreeable to the demand of the court of Britain, in their remonſtrance againſt the reſpect which had been paid, under the eye of this governor, to the flag of America, in one of the harbours of this iſland. The ſtates of Holland have extenſive ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa and in the Eaſt-Indies, and from the numbers of her merchantmen which cover every ſea, ſhe is greatly in the power of the naval force of Britain. She has more to loſe than ſhe had in the days of De Ruyter and Van Trump, and it is not ſo immediately neceſſary for her now to riſk every thing, and cut her way thro' every oppoſition, as it then was.

We ſee then that France was the only power from whom our political ſalvation could proceed. She has interpoſed, and "invited other powers who have received injuries from Britain to make common cauſe with her," and to interpoſe for our deliverance. Spain, bound by the cords of conſanguinity, by the faith of the family compact, and by the ſympathy of a kind affection, has made "common cauſe" with France. Wounded by the injuries of Britain, it had become neceſſary to "make common cauſe" with France; for in co-operation with the ſiſter court ſhe could alone hope to receive a reparation of her damages. So that, on the one ſide drawn by love, and on the other ſide impelled by injury, ſhe has judged wiſely, and obeyed the dictates of a ſound mind in her preſent conduct. Indeed, from the beginning, we were well perſuaded that the ſentiments of Spain were with France in her undertaking. For her kings and grandees were not ignorant, that our independence would be the extenſion of their commerce, and their great happineſs; and moreover, the eſtabliſhment of theſe ſtates would be the firſt memberment of the over-grown power of Britain, which otherwiſe, in a ſhort time, might have been wielded by the ambitious ſpirit of the nation againſt their iſlands, and their colonies of South America, to the total ſubjugation of them.

It has been abſurdly ſaid, that Spain would be jealous of the power of theſe ſtates. She has greater reaſon to be jealous of them in the hands of Britain. For every one muſt know, that republics, in their nature, are not made to extend dominion. The Roman power over-ran half the world, but not while it exiſted a republic. She made conqueſts in this ſtate, but it was only over thoſe powers who had before invaded her. If they had not come into Italy to diſturb her, it is not probable ſhe would ever have gone out of Italy to ſeek for them. Beſides, it may be long before theſe ſtates can be formidable to the colonies of Spain; but in their former ſtate, in poſſeſſion of the power of Britain, they muſt in a ſhort time have become formidable. It is likewiſe to be conſidered, that theſe ſtates ſetting out in good will with the Spaniſh monarchy, will long retain a veneration for it. Whereas Britain, on the other hand, in whoſe power we ſhould have been, was already hoſtile, and waited only for an opportunity to oppreſs France and Spain, and the whole houſe of Bourbon.

The ſentiments of Spain were early favouring to the wiſh of France in the eſtabliſhment of theſe ſtates. And this was evident from the diſpoſition of her people, in their kind treatment of all perſons from this country, who happened to be in the harbour of the Havanna, or in any other harbour of her iſlands. But it did not conſiſt with the ſtrict honour of the nation, for which ſhe has been provenbial in every age, to break with Britain until the war againſt France had been determinedly waged, and there appeared no hope of the acceptance of her mediation in behalf of the ſiſter court; until, moreover, the injuries ſhe herſelf had received from Britain had added ſtrength to the former cauſe, already ſtrong enough, and made it neceſſary for her by every tie, human and divine, to break with her, and be decitive in her meaſures in co-operation with the court of France. Though ſhe has not yet acceded to the alliance, or formally acknowledged the independence of the ſtates, owing probably to the circumſtance of no proper application on the part of theſe ſtates having been yet made to her; yet, acting agreeably to the ſtipulations of the family compact of the houſe of Bourbon, ſhe is in fact, through the inſtrumentality of France, engaged warmly, and labouring ſteadily for our independence. This forms a new era in the affairs of this continent. It is glorious to behold the combined fleets of France and Spain, 54 ſail of the line, blocking up the Engliſh fleet in Torbay. It is alſo agreeable to ſee an army of 25,000 men by land laying ſiege to Gibraltar, and ſix ſhips of the line encircling the rock by ſea; while, in the mean time, other veſſels ſcour the Straits, or ride in triumph on the waves, where they meet the ocean, or bending up the coaſt oblige every merchantman or tranſport, or privateer that wears the Britiſh colours, or ſhip of war, to put into Liſbon, or to ſeek the ports of the Britiſh channel. Theſe objects in the eaſtern proſpect are agreeable, while at the ſame time in the weſtern we behold a fleet of 12 line of battle ſhips of Spain ready to inveſt the fortreſs of Jamaica, if Byron, with his haſtily refitted fleet, ſhould attempts to quit the lately hoſpitable harbours of St. Lucia, or St. Kitts, in purſuit of count d'Eſtaing on the coaſt of North-America, and about to aſk the enemy in theſe parts whether it might not be as well for them to ceaſe hoſtilities, and

content themſelves with a little plain fare in a priſon-ſhip, or gaol, or ſo, as many poor Americans have been obliged to do in the courſe of this debate.

Spain is active for us, though not profeſſedly allied to theſe ſtates. For while ſhe joins her counſels and her arms to the counſels and the arms of France, ſhe joins them to the counſels and the arms of theſe ſtates, whoſe object and whoſe intereſt is the ſame, the demolition of the haughty power and ambitious tyranny of Britain. It is a new ſource of ſafety to our cauſe. "A three-fold cord, (ſays the wiſe man) is not eaſily broken;" and whatever ſlight poſſible ground of apprehenſion there could be of conqueſt on the part of Britain heretofore, there can be none, in the uſual courſe of things, and with the favour of Divine Providence, at preſent. It is a ſource of honour to our cauſe. For the reputation of the Spaniſh monarchy, and of the nation, is high over all the world, for truth in words, fidelity in promiſes——uncorrupt integrity—for valour, and all heroic virtues that kindle in the breaſts of men. Her glory riſes from Numantia defended to the era of the brave Spartacus, and from her faithfulneſs and perſeverance under this leader to the modern ages, when, ariſing from the ſhades of vagrant barbariſm, like the fire that works off the droſs, and makes the metal pure, ſhe ſhone againſt the Saracens, and afterwards againſt the Turks, diſciples of the ſame religion, and finally expelled the Moors invading her from Barbary, and under Ferdinand and Iſabella, eſtabliſhed the kingdoms of Caſtile and Arragon in one illuſtrious monarchy. Theſe are her honours, acquired in long ſucceſſion of eternal victories. Theſe ſhe bends to France, and through the policy of that kingdom they are refracted in a thouſand fine prismatic rays of light to theſe ſtates, where, ſtill diverging, they are ſeen by every eye; and who is there that does not call that nation happy, who, having been the firſt diſcoverer of this continent, is now illuſtriouſly engaged in concert with our great ally, to give it liberty?

I congratulate my countrymen on the addition of the arms of Spain to our aſſiſtance, and I truſt the time is not far off, when we ſhall be happy in hearing that ſhe has "acceded to the alliance," and avowedly made "common cauſe" with America.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

NUMBER XV.

THE teſtimonies of eſteem exhibited to the Sieur Gerard during his reſidence amongſt us, and on his return to the court of his ſovereign, have been juſtly due to his merit, and are an evidence of that affection which we entertain for the alliance, and which is deeply fixed in the breaſt of every American.

This gentleman was early known in America: for, having been appointed by his ſovereign to announce to our commiſſioners at Paris the diſpoſition of the court to enter into a treaty with us, his name came with that annunciation to the continent; and it came with a certain fragrance alſo. For we naturally tranſfer the idea of acceptableneſs from the thing to the perſon; and as this treaty was neceſſary for our ſafety, and as it was propoſed to be founded on principles of the moſt perfect equality, it was greatly acceptable: the name which came connected with it was early in eſtimation with us. It is the language of the ſcripture, "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him who bring glad tidings."

The Sieur Gerard, acting as ſecretary to his majeſty's council of ſtate, had no inconſiderable ſhare in drawing up that treaty. Hence it was that his appointment as miniſter was highly acceptable to the people of this country. For having been engaged to draw it up, there was every reaſon to believe that he would be anxiouſly diſpoſed, in every manner, to wiſh the ſucceſs of it.

The arrival of his excellency on the continent was highly pleaſing to every whig mind. What could be a greater ground of cheerfulneſs, than to behold a foreign miniſter in theſe States, which but a few years before were the provinces of a ſmall iſland? The empire now law itſelf independent, and the reſidence of the miniſter was a full appendage of its independence.

The conciliating diſpoſition of the miniſter was favourable to our yet infantile ſituation. For it will be eaſily conceived, that, having been long attached to the iſland of Great-Britain, it was no eaſy thing for the people of this country all at once to throw off every prejudice in favour of it. Nothing but the utmoſt force of tyranny, and the violent ruſh of war, could have made the diſruption: and when, by the bold winds, and the inundation of innumerable evils, the diſruption had been made, we remained for a long time like a land unfixed. Thrown to the ſide of France, it required the hand of a wiſe man to bind us faſt to it. This the Sieur Gerard has accompliſhed, and, in ſo doing, has rendered an eſſential ſervice to theſe States, and has acted faithfully for the true intereſt of the court whom he came to repreſent.

A ſenſe of this wiſe conduct of the miniſter lives in the breaſt of every one amongſt us. We have ſeen his republican manners ſuited to the genius of a free people. We have been pleaſed with his affability, inviting the moſt eaſy acceſs; his dignity demanding the moſt juſt reſpect. We have applauded his attention to the great affairs of the alliance. We have admired his prudence, magnanimity, and patience. We have given our approbation of theſe virtues in every manner in which it was in our power, with propriety, to give it.

The philoſophical ſociety of this city early electing him a member of their body, intended him a compliment, I have reaſon to believe, both as a gentleman of great and varied literature, and as the miniſter of that nation with whom we are happy in alliance, and whoſe literary reputation, as we ſhall by and by illuſtrate, is the higheſt in the whole world.

The general committee of the city and liberties of Philadelphia, "congratulating" him, Auguſt 11th, 1779, "on the victory obtained by the count d'Eſtaing over admiral Byron" in the Weſt-Indies, take the opportunity to declare themſelves "ſenſible of the benefits of the alliance," and at the ſame time to requeſt him to believe that "the citizens of Philadelphia regard the perſon of the Sieur Gerard with the utmoſt poſſible eſteem and reſpect."

The merchants of this city, in their addreſs to his excellency, about to leave theſe States for the court of his auguſt ſovereign, on the 18th of September laſt, "Declare themſelves impreſſed with a veneration for his character, reſpect for the amiable qualities he had evinced during his ſtay amongſt us, and gratitude for thoſe continued efforts he had made in the ſervice of America. They beg leave to approach his excellency, and to aſſure him that while ſentiments like theſe had endeared him to them, they alſo retain the moſt ſincere attachment to that alliance which he came to cultivate. Highly ſenſible of the many advantages reſulting from it to their country and themſelves, deeply impreſſed with a grateful ſenſe of its happy effects towards the eſtabliſhment of a glorious independence and peace, it will ever be their ſtudy, as it is their true intereſt, to cement and perpetuate it to the lateſt ages, by promoting, to the extent of their abilities, that commercial intercourſe between the two countries, which their ſituation and circumſtances mutually encourage, and which has been reſtrained in former times by an arbitrary monopoly." It is their wiſh, "that his excellency may continue long to enjoy every felicity due to his exalted merit and exertions in the ſervice of both countries: that the applauſe and approbation of both countries may reward his labours, and that a ſpeedy and agreeable paſſage may be ſucceeded by a gracious reception from his ſovereign, and a happy meeting with his family and friends."

The general aſſembly of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania addreſs his excellency on the ſame occaſion, Tueſday, Sept. 22, 1779, which addreſs is as follows:

"SIR,

"THE repreſentatives of the freemen of Pennſylvania, in general aſſembly, now wait on your excellency, to expreſs their ſentiments of the very eſſential ſervices you have rendered to America; and they have directed me, their ſpeaker, to give you their ſincere thanks for the early, zealous and truly diſintereſted part, you have taken in ſupport of *their* rights, and of the rights of all men. I aſſure you, Sir, it gives me infinite ſatisfaction that I have this opportunity of declaring to you in the behalf of the houſe, and of all the freemen of Pennſylvania, that your name and your ſervices to America will be held in grateful remembrance, ſo long as the love of liberty and our extenſive empire ſhall remain amongſt the nations.

"We wiſh you a ſafe and happy voyage, a perfect recovery of your health, and a moſt gracious reception by your magnanimous and illuſtrious prince.

"*Signed by order of the houſe,*

"JOHN BAYARD, ſpeaker."

The congreſs, September 3, 1779, paſs the following reſolve, extracted from their journals:

In CONGRESS, September 3, 1779.

"WHEREAS the honourable Sieur Gerard, the firſt miniſter plenipotentiary to theſe United States, hath before as well as ſince their treaty with France uniformly, ably and zealouſly promoted the objects of the alliance, and the welfare of both nations.

"*Reſolved*, That the committee do requeſt Mr. Gerard to ſit for his picture before he leaves this city, and that the ſame be placed in the council-chamber of the United States.

"*Extract from the minutes,*

"CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary."

Agreeably to the above reſolve the portrait of his excellency, at full length, has been taken, with a moſt perfect likeneſs, by that juſtly celebrated and ingenious artiſt Charles Willſon Peale, and it will remain in America to be contemplated by the patriots of the empire, and to be ſeen by thoſe who love the memory of the truly great original.

Sept. 17. His excellency, on being introduced, agreeably to his previous requeſt, to an audience of the congreſs, to take his leave, addreſſes that honourable body in a ſpeech, of which the following is a tranſlation.

"Gentlemen, The king my maſter having been pleaſed to attend to the repreſentations which my ill ſtate of health obliged me to make to him, his majeſty has granted me leave to return. At the ſame time he has taken care to ſend a new miniſter plenipotentiary to America, that there may be no interruption in his care to cultivate a mutual friendſhip. I muſt leave it to the abilities of Monſieur the chevalier de la Luzerne to explain to you his majeſty's ſentiments, and confine myſelf at this time in teſtifying to you, gentlemen, the ſatisfaction I ſhall have in rendering him an account of the occurrences which I have been witneſs of for more than a year during my reſidence with you. His majeſty will thereby perceive the ſentiments with which your councils are animated and governed, your wiſdom, your firmneſs, your attachment to the alliance, and your zeal for the proſperity of the common cauſe and the two nations reſpectively. He will ſee with pleaſure, that that ineſtimable union, which conſtitutes the principal force and weight of the confederacy, reigns among the United States; that the citizens are ſo far from being wanting in zeal and ſpirit to repel incurſions which can have no other object than a barbarous devaſtation, that there is not an American who is not ſenſible of the neceſſity of concurring to humble ſtill farther and weaken the common enemy, by efforts proportionate to the importance of happily terminating a glorious revolution, and of ſecuring as ſpeedily as poſſible to the United States of America, by a ſolid and honourable peace, the ineſtimable advantages of liberty and independence, which is the eſſential and fundamental object of the alliance, and of the war kindled and rendered neceſſary by England.

"It only remains for me, gentlemen, to offer you, as a body and as individuals, the tribute of my thanks for the marks of confidence and eſteem, and alſo of attention, which I have received from you. I have always endeavoured to deſerve them, by the moſt ſincere and zealous attachment to the intereſts and dignity of the United States, as well as to the principles and ſentiments reſulting from the alliance. I have not been wanting in, for every thing that could have any relation to that object, and that could farther cement the connections, whether political or perſonal, between the two nations. The moſt

flattering recompence of all my labours would be the teſtimony of your ſatisfaction."

To which the president in behalf of congreſs returned the following anſwer:

"SIR,

"We receive with much concern the intimation you have given us, that the bad ſtate of your health obliges you to leave America; though at the ſame time we are ſenſible of the continued friendly care of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, in ſending a new miniſter plenipotentiary to theſe ſtates.

"Great as our regret is in thus parting with you, yet it affords us pleaſure to think how well diſpoſed you are to improve the favourable opportunities you will have, on your return to France, of evincing to his majeſty the reality of thoſe ſentiments on our part, which may juſtly be termed the animating principles of the United States.

"By ſuch repreſentations the king will be aſſured, that the citizens of theſe ſtates obſerve with the moſt lively ſatisfaction the repeated inſtances of his amity for them; that they regard the alliance as an ineſtimable connection, endeared to them by the purity of the motives on which it was founded, the advantages derived from it, and the bleſſings it promiſes to both nations; that their reſolution of ſecuring its eſſential objects, liberty and independence, is unalterable. That they are determined, by all the exertions in their power, to advance the common cauſe, and to demonſtrate that while they are attentive to their own intereſts, they as ardently deſire to approve themſelves, not only faithful but affectionate allies.

"By a reſidence of more than a year near congreſs, you are enabled to form a competent judgment of the difficulties we have had to encounter, as well as of our efforts to remove them.

"Sir, We ſhould be deficient in the reſpect due to diſtinguiſhed merit, if we ſhould fail to embrace this opportunity of teſtifying the high eſteem, which you have obtained throughout this country by your public and private conduct. You have happily combined a vigilant devotion for the dignity and intereſts of our moſt excellent and illuſtrious ally with a zealous attachment to the honour and welfare of theſe ſtates.

"Your prudence, integrity, ability and diligence, in diſcharging the eminent truſt repoſed in you, have ſecured our entire confidence, and now ſolicit from us the ſtrongeſt declaration of our ſatisfaction in your behaviour.

"That you may be bleſſed with a favourable voyage, the approbation of your ſovereign, the perfect recovery of your health, and all happineſs, is among the warmeſt wiſhes of every member of this body.

Extract from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary."

Theſe have been amongſt the teſtimonies of reſpect exhibited to his excellency. Beſides which, the attention paid to him by our worthy general and by the army, in two viſits to the camp; and moreover the deference ſhewn to him in polite aſſemblies and more public companies, which he has honoured with his preſence, have compleated that ſatisfaction which his ſenſibility would lead him to enjoy, from a knowledge that he has poſſeſſed the univerſal confidence and eſteem of a virtuous and free people.

Thurſday, October 21ſt, he ſet ſail from the continent: his reputation ſhall remain amongſt us, and go down with reputation to poſterity. In the language of Cicero, "he has left a pleaſing and laſting memory of his ſervices and name with all Americans."

Shall it be ſaid, that the teſtimonies of eſteem exhibited to this illuſtrious character might be ſpared, ſeeing he was the miniſter of a foreign power, and not of theſe States? Let it be conſidered that he was the miniſter of a foreign power, whoſe intereſts are the ſame with thoſe of theſe States; and for this reaſon, he was in ſome ſenſe the miniſter of theſe ſtates. Moving in the ſame line, our miniſters are the miniſters of France, and the miniſters of France are our miniſters. When we caſt away, as we ought to do, the idea of diſtinction in the councils, we loſe alſo that of diſtinction in the perſons. The conjunction of action gives a community of approbation; and while France honours our commiſſioners and later miniſters with teſtimonies of eſteem, we ſhall gratefully retribute, and amicably compromiſe the generous contention of good-will by equal acts, on our part, of complaiſance and friendſhip.

The caſe is widely different where two powers, though not at war, yet are oppoſite in intereſts to each other. There the miniſter of each power is a ſpy upon the court where he is appointed to reſide; and in proportion as he executes his truſt faithfully for the reſpective power who has commiſſioned him, he is the object of watchfulneſs on the part of that power where he has his reſidence.

America and France, with regard to each other, are not in this ſituation. They enjoy a unity of intereſts, and combine a unity of councils. The man, in any ſtation, who ſhall beſt underſtand and purſue the intereſts of the one, ſhall ſerve moſt faithfully the intereſts of the other, and ſhall beſt deſerve the panegyric of both.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

A LIST of continental agents, licenſed by the Governor and Council to purchaſe in this ſtate for the American army.

1779. Aug. 26. PATRICK RWING, Cæcil county, aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes.

Sept. 3. Henry Hollingſworth, Cæcil, deputy quarter-maſter-general for the eaſtern ſhore

Sept. 7 James Calhoun, Baltimore, deputy quarter-maſter-general for the weſtern ſhore

Sept. 10. Ephraim Blaine, deputy commiſſary-general of purchaſes in the army of the United ſtates.

Conrod Theodore Wederſtrandt, aſſiſtant deputy commiſſary of purchaſes for Queen-Anne's, Talbot and below.

Nathaniel Potter, ditto, for Caroline.

Richard Dallam, ditto, for Harford.

Robert Buchanan, ditto, for Baltimore.

Thomas Richardſon, ditto, for Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles, and St. Mary's.

George Murdock, ditto, for Frederick.

Moſes Rawlings, ditto, for Waſhington.

Sept. 13. Charles Beatty, deputy quarter-maſter general for Frederick.

Sept. 14. Richard Butler, deputy quarter-maſter ditto.

Nicholas Tice, ditto, for ditto.

Sept. 17. Henry Wright, jun. aſſiſtant deputy forage maſter-general for all the counties of the eaſtern ſhore of this ſtate except Cæcil.

John Greer, aſſiſtant deputy quarter-maſter-general for the lower part of Frederick and upper part of Baltimore counties.

Henry Shryock, ditto, for Waſhington.

David Poe, ditto, for Baltimore.

Oct. 12. Joſeph Ford, aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes for St. Mary's and Calvert counties.

21. Levin Spedding, deputy aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes.

Nicholas Goldſborough, ditto.

John Caile Harriſon, ditto.

George Dawſon, ditto.

Robert Walter, ditto.

Aquila Brown, ditto.

28. James Martin, ditto.

William Horſey, ditto.

Levin Handy, deputy aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes.

Novemb. 19. William Wright, ditto, Queen-Anne's county.

Jacob Giles, jun. aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes. Harford.

William Lyles, ditto, Prince-George's.

Nov. 30. Benjamin Chambers, deputy quarter-maſter-general of forage, for Dorcheſter, Worceſter, and Somerſet.

James Hindman, deputy aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes for Talbot.

James Sullivane, ditto, for Dorcheſter county.

Dec. 11. Walter Hanſon, deputy aſſiſtant commiſſary of purchaſes for Charles county.

A PETITION will be offered to the firſt ſeſſion of the general aſſembly after this notice ſhall have been publiſhed eight weeks, for an act admitting to record, and giving effect from the date to a deed executed in Prince-George's county, by George Cone, to Joſias Shaw, for part of a tract of land called William and Anne.

w8 1 RICHARD HENDERSON.

To be ſold at public ſale, on Wedneſday the [illegible] of February next, at the plantation of [illegible] White, near the head of ſevern river,

A PARCEL of NEGROES, conſiſting of men, women, and children; one of the men is a pretty good carpenter, and underſtands going by water. 1021 Dollars

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In COUNCIL, Annapolis, Dec. 17, 1779.

ANY gentleman having veſſels to let on freight to Europe or the Weſt-Indies, and willing to treat with the Governor and Council, are requeſted to tranſmit their propoſals as ſpeedily as convenient.

2 T. JOHNSON, jun. cl.

CAME ſome months ago to the plantation of Mrs. Eleanor Carroll, on Rock-Creek, Montgomery county, the following ſtray cattle, viz. One red ſteer, one brindled and one black heifer; they are marked with two ſwallow-forks. The owner may have them again, on proving his property and paying charges, by applying to

2 PAUL SOMERS, Overſeer.

THERE is at the plantation of Samuel Jacobs, living near the Governor's Bridge, a red and white HEIFER, marked in the right ear with an upper and under ſlip, and in the left with an upper ſlip. The owner may have her again on proving property and paying charges. 3X

w3

FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.

Baltimore county, December 10, 1779.

STOLEN and taken away from Middle-River, in Baltimore county, on Tueſday night laſt, the 7th inſtant, a ſmall SCHOONER, the property of the ſubſcriber. She has been lately repaired, her frame is mulberry, her bottom new planked, the cabbin floor new, as is alſo the bulk-head and hatchway over the cabbin; ſhe has only two ſails, a foreſail and main-ſail, which are about half worn and have ſome holes in them; her bowſprit is on but ſhe has no gibb, her boom is new, and had when ſtolen a ſmall punt with her. The above robbery was committed by one Stephen Welſh, who alſo carried with him a thin faced ſpare woman, the wife of one Philip Sheels, and a ſmall boy of his own about nine years old. Whoever takes up the ſaid ſchooner and Welſh, and delivers them to the ſubſcriber in Baltimore Town, ſhall receive the above reward, or one thouſand dollars, with reaſonable charges, for the ſchooner and her materials only.

w4 3 JOB GARRETSON.

ONE HUNDRED and SIXTY DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, October 16, 1779.

STRAYED or ſtolen from the ſubſcriber, on Wedneſday the 6th of October inſtant, a dark bay MARE, four years old laſt ſpring, branded with an F and a B, one hind foot white, a ſmall blaze down the face in the form of a half moon at the top, one of her fore hoofs ſplit, fifteen hands high, ſhod all round, paces and trots. Whoever will bring the ſaid mare home to the ſubſcriber in Annapolis, or Thomas Jones, blackſmith in Baltimore, ſhall receive 100 dollars reward, if only ſtrayed away, but if ſtolen 160 dollars for the mare and thief.

4 JOHN TOWNSLEY, Copperſmith.

Annapolis, October 22, 1779.

FOR SALE.

THE UNITED STATES LOTTERY TICKETS in the third claſs. Theſe go off very rapidly, from the advantage to the adventurer in this claſs compared with the preceding ones: the holders therefore of tickets in the ſecond claſs, who purchaſed of the ſubſcriber, being entitled to pre-emption in this, are requeſted to be ſpeedy in their application to renew, otherwiſe they will be diſpoſed of to others.

tf 9 JOHN DAVIDSON.

THE ſubſcriber wants a number of COARSE SHOES made, for which good wages will be given; ſhoemakers may take them out in quantities.

A CURRIER will meet with encouragement by applying to

WILLIAM GOLDSMITH,

Of whom a good price may be had for coarſe ſhoe thread. 15

☞ CASH given for clean Linen and Cotton RAGS. 2

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK and SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE in *Charles-Street*.

* *Ut Siculis omnibus, jucundam, diuturnamque, memoriam quieſcere, nonniſi mei reliquerim.*

Ora. pro Cecilio.